



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended)

Claim 2 (original)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (original)

Claim 5 (cancelled)

[c1]<claim>

<claim-text>> What is claimed is: </claim-text>

<claim-text>1.(currently amended) microscope illuminator, comprising: </claim-text>

<claim-text>a point source light radiator ~~so configured as to efficiently intercept the a spherical radiation pattern~~, enclosed in a circumferential shroud of multiple optical fibers;

said optical fibers being recombined to form a tightly-shaped, singular output for illumination of microscope specimens. </claim-text></claim>

[c3]<claim>

<claim-text>2.(original) The microscope illuminator of claim 1, further comprising:
</claim-text>

<claim-text> a vertical positioning system;

said system capable of altering the relative vertical position between the radiator and the fiber optic shroud to achieve an attenuation control of the transferred energy without altering its spectral characteristics. </claim-text></claim>

[c3]<claim>

<claim-text>3.(cancelled) The light capturing assembly of claim 2, further comprising:
</claim-text>